

To Whom It May Concern,

Montanans are a fiercely independent people who value our freedom. Part of that freedom is the right to make our own decisions, including quality of life. That quality of life is not only how we pursue happiness in our daily existence, but but also how our lives come to an end after enduring a terminal illness.

This is a very personal and private choice best made with those closest to you and your doctor, not a 'bureaucrat' or the government.

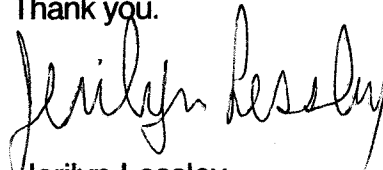
The same folks who who complain about 'big government' and cry "Don't Tread On Me!" seem to support legislating how people live their private lives and make their most intimate choices.

If we truly live in a state and country that value independence and freedom, legislation that tells anyone how to live, or die, is an affront to the very values upon which this country was founded.

I value your right to choose which set of morals guide your life, all I ask is that you extend me the same courtesy and respect when it comes time for me to decide what is right for me.

Allow me my final dignity.

Thank you.



Jerilyn Lessley